

Fall 8-15-1997

ENG 2009-002: Literature and Human Values: Race, Age, & Gender

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2009-2

Literature and Human Values: Race, Age, & Gender
English 2009.002

Dr. Calendrillo
T-Th 11-12:15

Office: 314G Coleman Hall
Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30-11AM, and by appt.
Office Phone: 581-6293
Texts: Bridges: Literature across Cultures eds. Muller & Williams
Black Betty by Walter Mosley
Spence + Lila by Bobbie Ann Mason
What We Talk about When We Talk about Love by Ray. Carver

Course Objectives and Design: We will read, write about, and discuss works that foreground issues of race, age and gender so that we can more fully understand how and why we respond to these issues as we do and how (and perhaps why) various artists respond as they do. You will need to come with an open mind and a willingness to read, write, and talk about literature as reflecting and shaping human values.

Course Activities and Responsibilities: Three exams (part identification, part essay) including a final; one entry per reading week into a reading journal; and one short paper (5-7 pages). You are, of course, responsible for the reading assigned for the day that discussion begins on each author. Reading quizzes will be given if necessary. Unless you receive an extension ahead of time, written assignments must be submitted on time or the grade will be lowered one point for each day late (on a 10 point scale); in other words, you must turn your reading journal in each class period at the beginning of the period or your grade on that entry will be lowered. Entries submitted to my mailbox are automatically considered late.

Basis of Semester Grade: 20% for each exam, 20% for the paper, and 20% for Reading Journal entries. If reading quizzes become necessary, those grades will become a proportion of the final grade averaged with your journal grade.

Reading Journal: Each week, you will need to bring to class an entry for a reading journal on the assigned reading (10 entries in all, one for each reading week). You must write these across the semester to have them be helpful; to this end, you cannot submit more than 4 for any one unit. You would do best to give in one each week routinely. Choose either Tuesday or Thursday readings for your journal writing. You may write your responses at two different point, either during your reading of the work or afterwards. (Try varying your approach with different readings.) You must turn in this entry on the day of the reading at the beginning of class or your grade will suffer; if you turn it in after class, you will lose points. I will grade these entries, which should be one full double-spaced typed page each, on a scale of 1-10 on the basis of completeness and insightfulness into the issues that the readings raise. You should use the journal to react to the readings, evaluating them in the light of other readings, your life, and/or the lives of people around you. These are possible approaches. What you must avoid doing in your journal is merely summarizing the plots of the readings.

Short Paper: I will give you a description of this assignment later in the semester along with some preparatory work for it. Conferences will be scheduled to discuss project plans.

Special Needs: Students with special needs who seek accommodations for these needs should contact the Director of Disability Services at 581-6583.

Tentative Course Schedule for Fall 1997:

8/26	Unit on RACE
8/28	Mukherjee, Hindus 480
9/2	Williams, Son in the Afternoon 511
9/4	Thomas - Black Child 67, Cervantes - Refugee Ship 532, Whitman - I Hear America Singing 564, Wright - Autumn Begins... 564, Cullen - Incident 533
9/9	Cofer - What the Gypsy Said to her Children 533, Fong - Corrosion 534, Hughes - Share-Croppers 541, Welch - The Only Bar in Dixon 561
9/11	Lim - Modern Secrets 543, Mora - Elena 547, Soyinka - Telephone Conversation 554, Walsh - Port Authority Terminal 560
9/16-18	Mosley's <u>Black Betty</u>
9/23	Review
9/25	Test #1
9/30	Unit on AGE , Bontemps, A Summer Tragedy 469
10/2	Lessing, Flight 18
10/7	Carver - Photograph of My Father in his 22nd Year 45, Dove - Fifth Grade Autobiography 49, Song - Picture Bride 298, Vizenor - Family Photograph 68
10/9	Giovanni - Mothers 50, Lawrence - Piano 54, Hughes - Mother to Son 52, Cisneros - His Story 46, Hayden - Those Winter Sundays 51
10/14	Brooks - The Bean Eaters 259, Williams - To Waken an Old Lady 924, Lim - Ah Mah 281, Marvell - To His Coy Mistress 283, Pushkin - To My Old Nurse 61
10/16	No class, conferences later in the semester replace this day's classtime.
10/21-23	Mason's <u>Spence + Lila</u> . On 10/23, your paper proposals are due.
10/28	Review
10/30	Test #2
11/4	Unit on GENDER , Munro, The Found Boat 228
11/6	Chopin, A Respectable Woman 205
11/11	Kincaid, Girl 13, Brooks - A Song in the Front Yard 44, Dickenson - She Rose to His Requirements 264
11/13	Drafts of final papers are due for group work.
11/18	Wright -To Another Housewife 74, Atwood - Against Still Life 255, Wakowski - To An Autocrat 300, Browning - If Thou Must Love Me... 260
11/20	Amichai - The Sweet Breakdown of Abigail 253, Browning - My Last Duchess 261, Dugan - Love Song: I and Thou 267, Byron - She Walks in Beauty 262
12/2	Jordan - The Wedding 278, Sexton - The Black Art 295, Miles - Housewife 285, Levertov - About Marriage and The Ache of Marriage 279-281
12/4	Carver's <u>What We Talk About When We Talk About Love</u> , 3-78
12/9	Carver's <u>What We Talk About When We Talk About Love</u> , 79-160
12/11	Review
12/17	Test #3 from 10:15-12:15